

Meeting Minutes
WEST CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 28, 2014 – Regular Meeting
10:00 a.m. – Building Construction Services Conference Room

Attendees: Laren Armstrong, Lawrence Harrod, Henry Killion, Glynn Perkins, and Scott Schermerhorn

County: John Elias, Judith Nothdurft, Joanne Vernon, and Sandy Wright

Guests: Sign-in sheet attached

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call was taken that determined a quorum was present.

The meeting minutes from March 27, 2014 were unanimously approved as amended.

Citizen Input:

- Mr. Paine, the Chair for the South Gulf Cove (SGC) Street & Drainage Committee conveyed he was there to observe and later stated that there has been a problem with water lettuce that comes from other locations.
- Ms. Price, a member of South Gulf Cove Beautification Committee stated she was confused regarding the agenda. Many of the restoration and erosion control items seem to be Rotonda West based issues. She stated SGC has had similar issues in the past. She asked for a clarification of what a drainage ditch is; stating that according to her map, the Rotonda River doesn't have anything draining into it. Mr. Killion explained the Rotonda Lakes drain into the Rotonda River. The West Charlotte Stormwater Unit has budgeted work for several waterways; the Newgate Waterway being the largest so far. Ms. Price asked if the water lettuce in the SGC canals is coming from Rotonda West. Mr. Paine stated that the water lettuce in SGC comes from the Butterford Waterway. The water lettuce in Rotonda was cleared by the Rotonda West Association. The water lettuce outside of Rotonda was on state property and the removal was funded by the West Charlotte Stormwater Unit.
- Ms. Slater, Chair of the South Gulf Cove Beautification stated that it was requested at the joint West Charlotte Stormwater meeting last year, that the Santa Cruz Waterway be added to the West County drainage map; she has not seen an updated map. The map has been updated. Ms. Nothdurft will bring extra maps to next SGC Beautification meeting. There was discussion regarding cat tails blocking ditches by the Learning Garden. Mr. Elias previously stated it may be covered by the West Charlotte Stormwater Unit. Ms. Slater stated there are a lot of erosion problems on vacant lots that cause them to be almost unbuildable. Ms. Vernon stated that the erosion problems that are included on this agenda are caused by outfalls or other issues; not due to slopping off. The West Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit has recently taken the funding responsibility from the South Gulf Cove Waterway Unit for the water quality testing and part of the lock maintenance relating to stormwater control. Any issue in the SGC waterways related to navigation should be addressed by the SGC Waterway MSBU.

Unfinished Business:

- Newgate Waterway Spoil Removal – Ms. Vernon conveyed they were able to secure the necessary construction easements east of David Boulevard. The bid specs are currently in review and are expected to be completed by the end of June. The turtle removal is for gopher tortoises only and only within the staging area.
- Oyster Creek – Ms. Vernon conveyed it will be ready to go out to bid in October; and is for hand removal of exotic vegetation only.
- Grass Carp Barriers for Rotonda River – The Committee is concerned about only one bid being received. Ms. Vernon stated that a lot of the vendors only supply the fish, some didn't have the proper license to install the barriers and some were too far away. Mr. Elias noted the vendor did not want to meet the Purchasing requirements for the installation of the barriers and Maintenance & Operation (M&O) was going to do the installation. It was determined that M & O could directly hire the vendor for the installation of the barriers and it would be far less expensive than M&O doing the work. Ms. Plizga commented on the latest invoice for \$1700 from Johnson Engineering, and questioned the permitting fees listed. He stated permitting was done at the beginning by Mr. Plizga and Mr. Hunter. Ms. Nothdurft will follow up and report back. There was discussion regarding where the fish were purchased and if they could be released sooner instead of waiting until fall.

WEST CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 28, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Page 2

- 2 Culverts at White Marsh Inlet – The project is complete. Mr. Elias reported that the pipes were inspected. Open cutting and pipe replacement can be much more expensive than pipe lining, so pipe lining was chosen. There was a sewer line going through the pipe. The contractor is familiar with doing this type of work. There were meetings with Charlotte County Utilities and they agreed to accept this method of repair, as it is essentially a double lined pipe. The Committee agreed that it was a nice job. It was noted that the area needed to be sodded and maintained.
- Erosion Locations-Silt Removal Program – Mr. Elias and Ms. Vernon reviewed the locations and could not find any problems at 899 & 902 Boundary Blvd. around the manhole, or 193 West Pine Valley from a previous broken main and 790 Boundary Blvd. Mr. Plizga stated when the water level is up (as it is currently) there is no problem, but when the water levels are down, the contractor has to push his equipment through. The Committee, Mr. Elias, and Ms. Vernon all agreed to monitor these locations and address the problem if it reoccurs.
- Coral Creek Restoration Project – A silt barrier is lying on the ground and needs to be removed. Ms. Vernon stated as built plans have been received and she is working with M&O to make sure the area is included in the maintenance program. The Committee asked about costs regarding Phase II. Ms. Vernon stated that information is currently unknown and she will follow up.
- Buck Creek (Monitor/No Action at this time) Mr. Lyons, the Rotonda West Association (RWA) Manager stated they are undergoing a major invasive species removal and all land owned by the RWA is being addressed. The shoreline along Buck Creek was completed and now the mangroves fall into the water. He is making contact with a County Environmental Specialist to check the area. Ms. Nothdurft conveyed the problem was reported to Customer Assistance and an Investigator was assigned.
- Water Lettuce Removal in Rotonda River – The project is complete. A ramp has been built so the area can continue to be treated. There was extensive discussion regarding the source of the water lettuce. Mr. Lyons noted that the water lettuce is not being treated on the golf courses. The Committee agrees that it is an invasive species and should be eliminated at the source and asked the County to identify the source. The South Gulf Cove Waterway MSBU Committee contacts Mr. Hunter to spray their area and partly funds the spraying. Mr. Killion suggested a plan be put into place to control the lettuce. Ms. Vernon suggested the lettuce first be removed then sprayed. Mr. Elias will set up a meeting with the Aquatic Weed Control Staff for assistance in locating the source. Ms. Vernon said any issues in the Butterford Waterway should be reported as soon as possible. The RWA spends \$315,000 per year to maintain their canals and do everything possible to keep the invasive species out of their water system. Mr. Elias and Ms. Vernon will follow up.

New Business:

- NPDES Presentation – postponed until the next meeting.
- Answers to last meetings financial questions – Ms. Nothdurft answered the questions that were noted in the minutes regarding work order 1352725 Rotonda River Grass Carp, Lettuce Removal. Fish Barriers. The costs booked to WO 1352725 are the cost for Johnson Engineering for the carp barriers, the permit, and vegetation removal totaling \$67,509.45 and internal costs are \$2,352.78. She also conveyed that all of the Purchasing Department's time is funded through Central/Indirect Services Allocations.
- Financial Reports – The 6 Month Actual and Activity Reports were distributed for review and discussion. Mr. Killion stated that the charges for the grass carp that were installed in South Gulf Cove should have been given to the West Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit. Ms. Nothdurft will follow up and will also check on charges to the South Gulf Cove Waterway for lock maintenance. The Committee does not agree with the County Attorneys Office criteria for use of the West Charlotte Stormwater Unit's funding.

WEST CHARLOTTE STORMWATER UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 28, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Page 3

Open Discussion:

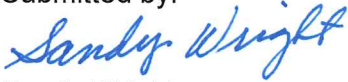
- Mr. Elias and Ms. Vernon got permission from Mr. Quick to address the backyard drainage/golf course easements and greenbelt issues that were discussed at the recent joint Rotonda West and West Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit meeting. There will be some legal issues that will have to be addressed with the County Attorneys office. They are in the process of doing the required leg work before going to legal. The Committee expressed an interest in helping in any way that they can.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

The Committee would like to schedule a Joint MSBU meeting this fall to include all MSBUs within the West Charlotte Stormwater Utility Unit on October 15 or 22. Schedules and conference room availability will be checked. The Committee would like for representatives from the Legal Department, Engineering Department and the Commissioners to attend. Mr. Killion agreed to check the availability of the commissioners.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

MEETING TIME: 10:00 A.M. – Building Construction Services Conference Room